## **CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

A computer-implemented method for representing a data schema that implements a relational database scheme in a graph, comprising:

identifying tables of said data schema;

representing said tables as nodes of said graph;

identifying fòreign key relationships pertaining to individual tables of said data schema; and

representing said foreign keys relationships as links of said graph.

2. A computer-implemented method for assisting in the specification of a user data model from a data schema that implements a relational database scheme, comprising:

representing said data schema as a graph, including identifying tables of said data schema, representing said tables as nodes of said graph, identifying foreign key relationships pertaining to individual tables of said data schema, and representing said foreign keys relationships as links of said graph;

extract from said graph a plurality of possible relationships pertaining to a node in said graph, said plurality of possible relationships pertaining to foreign key relationships that said node has with other nodes of said graph;

presenting said plurality of possible relationships to an operator of a computer; and

facilitating selection of one of said plurality of possible relationships.

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**PATENT**